

# THE COPPER ERA

AND MORENCI LEADER

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## CLIFTON-MORENCI DISTRICT SEES NEW ERA OF PROSPERITY

The Clifton correspondent of the El Paso Times had the following article in the Copper issue of that paper under date of August 31:

With a normal production of 50,000,000 pounds of copper annually from the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., and Phelps Dodge Corporation, Morenci Branch, operations in the Clifton-Morenci district ceased on June 1, 1921, in line with the policy of the copper producers of the state to curtail production until such time as the copper market reflected an increased demand for the brown metal.

In this district there are usually employed in the mines, smelters, concentrators and machine shops, etc., approximately 3,000 employees by the two producing companies. At present the payroll of the mining companies in the district bears the names of less than 300. Such is the situation at present and having presented the facts as they are, let us take a peep into the past and the future, which will explain the optimistic and sanguine feeling that in the near future the Clifton-Morenci district will again forge ahead into the front rank of the great copper producing districts of the world.

### Oldest Producing District

Let it be recorded in the beginning that the Clifton-Morenci district, including the mines at Longfellow, Metcalf, Coronado and Morenci, is the oldest continuous copper producing district in the state. The period of production dates back to the early '70s, when the Lesnysky brothers came overland from Las Cruces, N. M., purchased the claims from the original locators, and began the smelting of copper on Chase creek in a crude adobe furnace, transporting the matte product by wagon haul to La Junta, Colo., then the terminus of the Santa Fe railway.

### Steady Output for 40 Years

From this small beginning, under the most adverse conditions, production of copper has never ceased over a period of more than 40 years. In the early '80s the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., came into the district by the purchase of the Lesnysky property. The Lesnysky's incidentally cleaning up \$2,000,000 on the deal, and about the same time came the Detroit Copper Company at Morenci, under William Church. In the meantime the Southern Pacific railroad, having been completed through Arizona, a railroad was built from Clifton to Lordsburg, solving the transportation problem.

Over the past 30 years the story runs the same. Phelps Dodge Corporation acquired the mines at Morenci and the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., continued to operate on a constantly increasing scale at Longfellow and Metcalf. Millions of dollars were put back into the properties in improved mining methods and reduction plants. Old smelters were torn down and a \$3,000,000 plant took their place. Concentrator mills, of big capacity, play their part; narrow gauge railways were replaced by broad gauge tracks, and underground electric haulage system were installed. So much for the past, and now for the future.

Copper mine managers today are bending their efforts to a reduction of mining and reduction of costs. The day of 25 cent copper is gone and it is a case now of the survival of the fittest. In Clifton-Morenci district the mining claims of the Phelps Dodge Corporation and the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., are interlaced. Their haulage system cross each other; two railroad lines, the Morenci Southern and Arizona & New Mexico, haul the supplies for each company; separate concentrator mills the ore from the same locality and two overhead organizations are maintained. All of these things add to the cost per ton and cost per pound of copper mined, milled and smelted.

### Deal for Consolidation

With the drop in the price of copper it was realized that a consolidation of operations in the district between Phelps Dodge Corporation and the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., incorporated under the laws of the Great Britain, with headquarters offices in Edinburgh, Scotland, would be to the mutual advantage of each company. With this idea in mind negotiations were begun between the officials of both companies. They have been in progress for several months, now instead of a consolidation, the negotiations have reached that stage when an official announcement is daily expected that Phelps Dodge Corporation has purchased outright all of the mining claims, concentrator, smelter, A. & N. M. railway and personal property of the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., and in the future operations in this big district will be under the sole direction of Phelps Dodge.

Last week prominent officials of Phelps Dodge Corporation and Phelps Dodge Mercantile Company have been here checking over titles, inspecting inventories, looking over the A. C. company properties, and the indications are that the big transfer of holdings will soon take place.

Big things are ahead of the Clifton-Morenci district. Under the sole management of Phelps Dodge Corporation bigger production, with a reduced

## JUSTICE BAKER OF ARIZONA SUPREME COURT DIES

Phoenix, Ariz., Aug. 31.—Albert C. Baker, justice of the supreme court of Arizona, died in a hospital in Los Angeles today. The judge's death was due to heart disease. He had been a patient at the hospital only since last Friday.

Immediately after receiving word of Judge Baker's death Gov. Thomas E. Campbell directed that flags on all state institutions should be flown at half-mast for the next 30 days as a mark of mourning for the death of the jurist. The governor also sent a message to Mrs. Baker expressing his official and personal sympathy to the widow and four children who survive the judge.

Judge Baker had been a resident of Phoenix since 1879. He was born in Girard, Russell county, Alabama, 76 years ago. For 2½ years during the civil war the judge served as color bearer for Wadell's battalion of artillery. In 1886 he was admitted to the practice of law in Alabama and opened an office in Crawford, Ala., where he remained for three years when he removed to San Diego, Cal. In 1876 the judge went to Los Angeles, where he spent a year, and then he went to San Francisco, where he lived until he came to this city.

For a number of years he practiced law here. He was county attorney from 1882 to 1884 and for four more years he was city attorney. He also was United States district attorney for four years.

He was chief justice of the supreme court of the territory of Arizona from 1893 to 1897 when he again resumed private practice. He was appointed to the chief justiceship by President Cleveland. In 1918 he was elected justice of the state supreme court, a position he held at the time of his death.

Judge Baker married Miss Mary Jesus Alexander of Yuma, Ariz., on February 2, 1881. Besides the widow, he is survived by four children, Robert and Alexander C. Baker and Mrs. John H. Page of Phoenix, and Mrs. Clarence Stacey of Colorado.

Mrs. Baker, who had been visiting her daughter in Colorado, was on her way to Los Angeles when the judge died. She had left for the coast city as soon as she received word that he was seriously ill. Funeral arrangements have not been announced.

## HAZING ABOLISHED AT UNIVERSITY

The action to abolish hazing, taken by the Faculty of the University of Arizona at the close of the academic year, has elicited widespread interest. This rule of the Faculty has the decided approval of parents and taxpayers. It became known to the authorities of the University that more than once there had been narrow escapes from serious catastrophe as a result of hazing, and since fatalities had occurred in other institutions from this cause, prompt and decisive action seemed the wise course. The half-cutting episodes, in particular, had become distasteful and annoying to the public as well as to the college community. At best, it seemed very futile—a relic of the boarding-school stage of education and, at worst, a dangerous and brutal sport, humiliating in the extreme to certain victims with inborn pride and courage. The University of Arizona has happily passed beyond the rudimentary stage of its progress and has won cordial recognition as a unique and dignified institution among the first-class universities of the Nation. So the abolishing of manhandling is timely and appropriate.

In order that there may be no possible misunderstanding on the part of entering students, either of the rule abolishing hazing or of the serious intention of the authorities to enforce the rule promptly and firmly, a printed slip has been prepared to be given to each student before he registers. The slip reads as follows:

"Formal notice is hereby given to each student who desires to enter the University of Arizona that hazing has been abolished and is from this date prohibited. Each applicant for admission is required to sign the following statement at the time of registration: 'I hereby pledge myself on my honor not to encourage or participate in hazing during my attendance at the University of Arizona.'"

Contests among students according to rules approved by the Faculty are not classed as hazing.

If it should come to the knowledge of the authorities that an applicant before registering in the University has engaged in any form of hazing

cost sheet, will be inaugurated and it may be confidently expected that the wonderful advancement of the past, in the history of the oldest continuous copper producing district in the state will be duplicated, and even surpassed, in the future.

Are we downcast? No.

## News of Clifton

### FLIVVER RUNS AMUCK—

E. J. Lehman, residing on Shannon Hill experienced a peculiar accident on last Monday morning when his "Henry", made a high dive off the mountainside and landed with a crash a hundred feet below. Mr. Lehman was headed towards town and just before he started to descend Shannon Hill, his engine died and while in the act of cranking the machine it started on down the hill. Mr. Lehman attempted to grab the steering gear and guide it into the mountainside but slipped and was run over for his attempt and the machine swerved to the right and ran down the steep mountainside turning turtle several times before it landed below, the machine being badly wrecked. Mr. Lehman received several painful bruises but otherwise was uninjured.

### TO LOS ANGELES—

M. E. Firth left for Los Angeles last Monday morning where he was called by the illness of his wife. Mr. Firth received a message from the attending physician stating that Mrs. Firth was on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

### ROAD GANGS BUSY—

The city has had a force of men busy the past week cleaning up the rocks and dirt that was washed down by the recent rains. The streets are all in good condition again with the exception of Chase Creek which will take some time to straighten out.

### EARLY SUNDAY MORNING FIRE—

An early morning fire destroyed the five room house owned and occupied by Daniel M. Lynch on upper Chase Creek on last Sunday morning. The blaze being caused by the explosion of a gasoline stove. Mr. Lynch arose early and was in the act of preparing his breakfast when for some unknown reason the stove exploded scattering gasoline over the entire kitchen. An alarm was sounded and the fire department responded shortly after but the blaze had gained such headway that very little of the frame building was saved. The adjoining building occupied by Mr. Kline and family was also damaged to the extent of several hundred dollars. The buildings were partially covered by insurance.

### LEGION BOYS TO GIVE DANCE TOMORROW NIGHT—

The American Legion will stage another one of their popular dances tomorrow night. The music has been specially prepared for the occasion and the boys predict a big time.

### VICTORY DANCE BIG SUCCESS—

The Victory Orchestra made their first appearance in the Princess Theatre last Saturday night where they played to the banner crowd of the season. The music for the dance was snappy and full of pep and the boys received many compliments. Everybody seemed unanimous in declaring the dance a success.

## Grist Gathered at Court House

John S. Thompson has this week filed an action against R. R. Miller for payment of notes in the sum of \$20,000.00, which the plaintiff holds against the defendant and which remain due and wholly unpaid, the notes being secured by a chattel mortgage on a certain brand of cattle ranging on Eagle Creek. The plaintiff also asks that a receiver be appointed to take charge of the cattle and hearing on same will be had on Monday the 5th day of September. H. A. Elliott represents the plaintiff.

Neill E. Buck has filed her petition in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court praying for letters of administration upon the estate of Dave Buck, deceased. The estate consists of real and personal property. Hearing on said petition has been fixed for Monday the 12th day of September, 1921 at 10:00 o'clock A. M.

Benito Montoya and Guadalupe Placencio who on last week pleaded guilty to the charge of Contributory Delinquency before the Superior Court were each sentenced to serve six months in the County Jail by Judge Laine on last Monday. This sentence was however later suspended with the injunction that if either of the defendants are brought before the court upon any charge whatsoever, within the next two years, the six months' sentence will be invoked.

Montoya and Placencio have been adding and abetting a number of youthful burglars about town recently in buying stolen property from them. Four of the juveniles apprehended by Sheriff Bradberry admitted that they have been burglarizing in and about town for the past several months and implicated Montoya and Placencio. The boys ranging between the ages of 14 and 15 years were also placed in charge of their parents after having been severely reprimanded by the court and informed that if brought before him again they would be committed to the State Reform School at Fort Grant without fail.

Mrs. Bessie M. Fraser of Morenci, was this week appointed executrix of the estate of her late husband, Geo. Fraser, deceased.

Isaac N. Stevens was this week appointed Executor of the last will and testament of his wife, Jessie A. Stevens, deceased, without bond.

County Treasurer W. J. Collins is busy engaged preparing tax notices for the year 1921 and expects to have them in the mail some time next week. The Treasurer reports that the 1920 delinquent taxes are coming in very slow and that suit will be in-

since the passage of the rule prohibiting hazing, he will not be accepted as a student, since such action would show that the prospective student is out of sympathy with the published policy and purpose of the University. The administration earnestly advise any student who cannot fully and cordially subscribe to the rules of this University to refrain from enrolling here and to seek such an institution as meets his ideals of discipline.

RETURN TO DOUGLAS—Miss Doris Duffley, who has been visiting relatives in Morenci for the past three weeks left Thursday for her home in Douglas.

Globe—Railroad construction experts complete inspection trip to St. Jorge bay. Road from Ajo to Gulf port practically assured.

CLAYPOOL, ARIZONA, POSTOFFICE ROBBED—An alarm has been sent out over this and adjoining states by postoffice inspectors asking that city and county officials look out for the burglars who entered the postoffice at Claypool, Ariz., either late on the night of Aug. 25 or early on the morning of Aug. 26.

Fifty dollars in cash, \$25 in stamps, all blank money orders in the office together with rubber stamps used in making out money orders were taken.

Extension Co. of Kingman to sell 200,000 shares and Big Dome Silver Co. in Walker district 190,320 shares.

Nogales—City to be beautified—ordinance against unsightly signs enforced.

## CLIFTON SCHOOLS OPEN WITH 759 STUDENTS OLD TOMBSTONE SILVER MINES ARE ACTIVE DESPITE LULL

(By Supt. W. D. Baker)

Clifton Public Schools opened in all departments last Monday morning. It was found that the enrollment in general had not suffered as much as had been anticipated. It was found that there are approximately 120 less in the school system as a whole than at the close of school last June. The tabulation by buildings is as follows: South Clifton Elementary Building 232, North Clifton Building 178, Chase Creek 150, Junior School 91, Senior High School 108.

One especially gratifying fact is that the High School enrolls 13 more than a year ago.

It is especially important that all pupils who are old enough to attend school should enter at once. All parents and citizens in general are urged to cooperate with the school authorities in getting every child of school age into school.

### Cadmean Lyceum Course

The first number of the Cadmean Lyceum Course will be given Monday evening, October 3rd by the Sunflower Entertainers, two very talented young ladies. Season tickets for the course will be sold to adults at \$2.00 apiece good for five entertainments; to children at \$1.00 apiece. As there has been a great dearth of every form of entertainment for several months, it is hoped that there will be a very generous response of this to everything which the Cadmean Lyceum has to offer.

## PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

Mrs. G. S. Hays, nee Ethel Brooks, of Duncan, spent last Saturday in Clifton visiting friends.

C. V. Peery, prominent rancher of the Blue Country, was a business visitor in Clifton for several days of this week. Mr. Peery reports heavy rains in his country and cattle and the range in better condition than ever before.

Sam A. Foster, Henry Sullivan and Walter Foster of Duncan, were business visitors in Clifton on Tuesday of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Brooks of Duncan, visited friends in Clifton on last Saturday.

Judge of the Superior Court Frank B. Laine on this week appointed a Greenlee County Child Welfare Board in compliance with the new law enacted by Legislature at its recent session. The Board consist of four members and the following named persons were appointed for a term of from one to four years: Mr. A. L. Work, Morenci, Four years; Mrs. Annie Wilkinson, Duncan, Two years; Mrs. Louisa Deck, Clifton, Three years; Mr. O. A. Risdon, Clifton, One year. The Board will hold its first meeting on Thursday the 8th day of September, 1921, in the Court Room of the Superior Court for the purpose of organization.

Mr. Pat Peterson, Janitor at the Court House, left on Thursday morning for Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he will take a course of treatment and baths, Mr. Peterson being a sufferer of rheumatism. During his absence Mr. M. M. Smith will take over his work.

Mr. John S. Thompson left for El Paso on Thursday morning where he will spend several days on business.

County Attorney, C. Hooker, spent Thursday of this week at Duncan, on business.

Clerk of the Superior Court, Ben M. Crawford, who on last week suffered a fall from the court house steps, is still confined to his room at the Central Hotel, but is reported as getting on nicely and expects to be at his office next week.

Mrs. George Fraser, of Morenci, was a business visitor at the court house on last Monday.

Miss Virginia Minson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Minson, returned home Friday from Flagstaff, Arizona, where she had been attending the Northern Arizona Normal School, preparatory to entering the University of Arizona this fall.

O. J. Cotey, of the firm of Cotey & Black, left Tuesday morning for Miami where they have a construction contract with the Inspiration Copper company.

R. R. Miller was in town the first part of the week from his ranch on Eagle Creek.

Geo. Montgomery, rancher from the Blue district, has returned from Phoenix where he purchased a Reo truck.

Tombstone, Aug. 29—This old silver camp once the scene of the most extensive silver mining in the west but for a score of years practically idle, is experiencing a mining boom that may again put it in the first rank.

With the closing down of many other mines in the state, and the complete suspension of production by all the copper companies, many miners were forced to leave the big camps and seek less prominent localities for employment. As a result many old properties in this vicinity are being worked under leases. Some good ore bodies have been opened up and daily shipments of ore are being made to smelters in El Paso, the reduction plants at Douglas, fifty miles southeast of here, having been closed in the spring when copper production was halted.

### Abandoned Mines Open

Several of the mines being worked here now had been almost untouched for fifteen or twenty years while, on the surface here, claims that had never known pick or shovel are being developed with results that are more than satisfying their workers.

The water situation in Tombstone is peculiar. When the larger silver mines suspended operations early in the present century of late in the last, low prices for silver and too much water were, in the main, responsible. At great depths here mine shafts encountered a flow of water that even the most gigantic mine pumps could not handle. A tunnel at least seven miles long would have to be driven through the Mule mountains to the San Pedro valley to take care of the underground flow, it was estimated. That underground flow still hampers development work or actual mining on the lower levels of the old properties.

### Different Conditions

But on the surface there has been this year a different condition prevailing. Tombstone was threatened with a water shortage. Until the summer rains began, several weeks ago, Tombstone residents were placed on a forty-gallons-a-day water ration. Where an overabundance of water had halted mining operations years ago, a water shortage this year threatened to bring the same result, for without plenty of water, the several small mills here could not operate. With a rainfall during July of more than nine inches, however, this obstacle was removed, and now all mills are running to capacity.

While those who are working the properties here do not believe Tombstone will ever again see the good old days of from 1875 to the early '90s—when 10,000 persons made the camp their home, nevertheless the opinion prevails that the present boom, although comparatively small has resulted in the finding of enough ore and the mapping out of enough ore bodies here sufficient to keep it from becoming one of the ghost cities of the west for many years.

## WAR VETS SECURE NEEDED LEGISLATION

THE SWEET BILL became a law on August 8th, when President Harding affixed his signature, ending a heroic struggle of two and a half years for the decentralization of the War Risk Bureau.

The WASON BILL, which provided for this means of speedy relief for our disabled veterans, was passed by Congress after a two-year struggle, was vetoed by President Wilson.

THE SWEET BILL just passed by present Congress, embodies the provisions of the Wason Bill together with other desirable features. Under the new law the War Risk Bureau is decentralized into fourteen regional offices, with 160 sub-offices. The decentralization War Risk Bureau, the U. S. Public Health Service and Federal Training Board, insofar as they have to do with ex-service men and women are all consolidated under the head of a newly-created Veterans' Bureau.

President Harding has nominated Col. Chas. H. Forbes, present director of the War Risk Bureau and U. S. Public Health Service, for director of the Veterans' Bureau.

The reorganization will take effect immediately.

Under this plan, the agencies for veteran relief will be removed from the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department and the director will be directly responsible to the president, thereby removing these relief agencies entirely from political patronage.

Another feature provides that in cases of mental delinquency and tuberculosis, that the burden of proof shall rest upon the government for two years from date of discharge of the applicant.

In other words, if an ex-service man or woman develops either insanity within two years after date of discharge, it is conceded that such condition is due to military service and compensation will be immediately awarded. Thousands of pitiable cases will thus be automatically provided for.